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NEW YORK POST
18 December 1986

The inside non-facts on Iranscam

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FOR every seemingly impossible fact revealed to be true in the wild world of Iranscam, 10 hair-curling rumors have been proven false — but not before they swept Washington, driving reporters and the government crazy and sometimes even getting published.

But what can you expect of a story which began with the (as it turned out, false) news that the former U.S. National Security Adviser had put on a wig and flown to Iran with a revolver, a bible autographed by the President and a cake shaped like a key?

There have also been rumors that the arms sale was connected to the arrest of Ivan Boesky, to the espionage of Jonathan Pollard and to the murder of Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme.

Here are some others The Post's Rachel Flick has heard lately:

Vice President George Bush will resign. President Reagan will name former EPA Chief William Ruckelshaus Vice President. President Reagan will resign. William Ruckelshaus will become President.

Tip: White House Chief of Staff Don Regan has bought a \$600,000 house in Sarasota, Fla. so he can resign, leave town and move into it. (Regan did buy a house, but not on the spur of the moment, not because of Iranscam and not because he plans to go anywhere near it anytime soon.)

War drums: The U.S. is planning to invade Nicaragua to create a "diversion" from Iranscam.

Explanations: CIA Director William Casey suffered the seizure that hospitalized him because he heard that Roy Furmark — a Canadian arms merchant implicated in Iranscam — had suffered a heart attack. (Furmark didn't, and Casey heard no such thing.)

Rank rumor: There's a secret intelligence

agency, unconnected with the CIA — get it, a whole agency no one has ever heard of — concealed within the bowels of the U.S. government and carrying out its most nefarious work.

Hero worship: Ollie North is omnipotent. "Ollie was the guy who brought in the plane which brought the Duvaliers out of Haiti. Ollie coordinated President Corazon Aquino's forces and engineered the ouster of former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos . . . Pretty much name a crisis and I've had a request about whether Ollie was a part of it someplace," a weary government official said.

More hero worship: Ollie North is omnipresent. A government source says reporters notified him of confirmed sightings of North in both Beirut and Managua on the same morning when he actually attended a routine meeting at the Old Executive Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue.

By RICHARD JOHNSON
